(c) whether it is also a fact that economic reforms have failed to increase GDP at the desired level;

(d) if so, whether it is due to improper implementation of the policies under economic reforms or otherwise; and

(e) the steps being taken to ensure that the benefits of economic reforms reach poor and common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (e) Economic Reforms are a continuous process and these reforms are reviewed from time to time based on the prevailing situation.

Various economic reforms measures have been taken by the Government since 1991 aimed at accelerating economic growth, facilitating greater investment, enhancing the competitive spirit, reducing the level of poverty, allowing higher private initiative and achieving greater integration with the world economy. The reforms have resulted in improved growth of the economy, a lower rate of inflation, an overall increase in flows of foreign direct investment, a significant improvement in the balance of payments position, accumulation of comfortable foreign exchange reserves and an all round improvement in the external debt indicators.

Pendency of work at registrar of companies in Delhi

2071. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that work at Registrar of Companies, Delhi is very slow and pendency of applications is on the rise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the present Registrar is not co-operating with the professionals who visit his office for getting various approvals for their clients;

(c) if so, what action is being taken to set things rights; and

(d) what is the total backlog of applications under various acts pending in the Department for more than six months?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) While improvement in functioning of all ROC offices is required, the office of ROC, Delhi & Haryana is, comparatively, well run.

(d) No applications received under sections 20, 21 and 31 of Companies Act, 1956 regarding availability of name change of name and the conversion from Public Company to Private Company respectively are pending for more than six months with ROC, Delhi. In all cases either approval has been accorded or where the companies have not supplied requisite information, intimation for closure of their case has been sent.

Restructuring of CBDT/CBEC

2072. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBDT/CBEC are being restructured in order to improve the performance and increase the revenue collections;

(b) if so, the measures taken and the results of these measures;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the tax targets were not met during the last three financial years; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the Income Tax Department, some posts have been re-designated and some cadres have been merged, keeping in view the requirements of computerization. The overall staff strength of the Income Tax Department has been reduced. Additional manpower has been provided for attending to areas of priority action. Computerization has been taken up on a massive scale. These steps are expected to result in better functional efficiency and increase in revenue collection.

The restructuring of Customs and Central Excise Department is in the stage of implementation.

(c) Yes, Sir.